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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  <b>T Commissioner For Patents</b> Please enter the following submission and withdraw the finality of the proceeding office action or withdraw any pending appeal and reopen prosecution before the Examiner.	<b>Applicant Number</b>	09/498,261
	<b>Filing Date</b>	February 3, 2000
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Nicholas J. Mankovich et al
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3621
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Kambiz Abdi
	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	US000036

This is an RCE under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application (which is made prior to: payment of issue fee; abandonment; notice of appeal to the CAFC; or commencement of civil action under 35 U.S.C. 145 or 146.)

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 15, 2003  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (may not be a brief)

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (May not exceed 3 months; Fee required per 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(i))

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

a. ☒ The Commissioner For Patents is hereby authorized to charge all required fees except the issue fee or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
<b>Name (Print Type)</b>	Michael E. Belk	<b>Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)</b>	33,357
<b>Signature</b>	<i>Michael E. Belk</i>	<b>Date</b>	November 20, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to# _____ on the date below:			
<b>Name (Print Type)</b>	Patti DeMichele		
<b>Signature</b>	<i>Patti DeMichele</i>	<b>Date</b>	November 20, 2003